

THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

Vol. 6 No. 4

December, 1939

COINS OF MEXICO

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U. S. MEDALS & TOKENS

COMMEMORATIVE COINS

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THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

Volume 6. April, 1939 to December, 1939

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Albany Half Dollar 1686-1936	67
Ancient Coins in the Collection of the American Numismatic Society ..	3
Bridgeport Centennial Half Dollar	28
Cincinnati Musical Center Half Dollar	25
Delaware Tercentenary Half Dollar	100
Domestic Coinage	29, 69, 103, 133
Dutch East Indies, Renewal of the Small Change in	2
Elgin Centennial Half Dollar	66
Far Eastern Coins in the Cabinet of the American Numismatic Society ..	124
Franklin Dime, Bill for New	64
Gettysburg Half Dollar	102
Gold Pattern Coins of the United States	7
Hard Times Tokens of Large-cent Size	17
Long Island Tercentenary Half Dollar	26
Lynchburg Sesquicentennial Half Dollar	65
Mexico, Coins of	119
Mohammedan and Near Eastern Coins in the Cabinet of the American Numismatic Society	60
New Issues of Coins	30, 123
Newell, Edward T.	83
New Rochelle Half Dollar 1688-1938	101
Noe, Sydney P.	3, 60, 124
Notes Issued by Cities and Towns 1775-1866	31
Numismatic Rarities	70
Reed, Alfred Z.	17
Roanoke Island Half Dollar	99
San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Half Dollar	68
Silver Crowns of England	50
Standard Ptolemaic Silver	83
U. S. Commemorative Coins	25, 65, 99, 135
U. S. Medals and Tokens	127
Van der Leeuw, H.	2
Wisner, D. C.	31
York County Centennial Half Dollar	27



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Directory of Coin Clubs and Societies

All coin clubs have been invited to become listed in this directory. The following have replied. Collectors wishing to affiliate with any club or society should make application through its secretary.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Numismatic Association

Mr. Lewis M. Reagan, Director of Advertising,
99 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

American Numismatic Society

155th St., W. of Broadway, New York, N. Y.

CALIFORNIA

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

Harvey L. Hansen, Sec., 1187 Kottenberg Ave.,
San Jose, Cal.

San Diego Numismatic Society

Thomas W. Voetter, Sec., 1819 Sheridan Ave.,
San Diego, Cal.

CONNECTICUT

Greenwich Stamp & Coin Club, Greenwich, Conn.

Evelyn C. Billings, Secretary, P. O. Box 326,
Greenwich, Conn.

Hartford Numismatic Society

Eric H. Lind, Secretary, 232 Lewiston St.,
Willimantic, Conn.

Fairfield County Numismatic Association

J. Norman Crosby, Secretary, P. O. Box 565,
Bridgeport, Conn.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington Numismatic Society

Frederic E. Hodge, Secretary, 136 Bryant St.,
Washington, D. C.

GEORGIA

Atlanta Coin Club

Geo. M. Todd, Secretary, 106 West Paces Ferry
Road, Atlanta, Ga.

ILLINOIS

Chicago Coin Club

L. T. Kopicki, Secretary, 2111 S. St. Louis Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Sterling Coin Club

W. H. Jamison, Secretary, 401 West 10th St.,
Sterling, Illinois

IOWA

Ames Numismatic Society

C. B. Anderson, Sec./Treas., 401 Clarke St.,
Ames, Iowa

Corn Belt Coin Club

Everett Dietz, 219 Duryea St., Waterloo, Iowa.

Des Moines Coin Club

Arnold E. Swanson, Sec., 2400 East 12th St.,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Muscatine Coin Club

E. W. Allen, Secretary-Treasurer, P. O. Box 78,
Muscatine, Iowa.

Northwest Iowa Coin Club

P. H. Loomer, Sec., 913 Third Ave., North
Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Quad City Coin Club

Marjorie L. Ankeny, Secretary, 218 Essex Lane,
Davenport, Iowa.

KANSAS

Topeka Coin Club

Homer F. Wright, Sec., 134 N. Western Ave.,
Topeka, Kansas.

LOUISIANA

Fugio Coin Club, Shreveport, La.

Frank E. Hudson, Secretary, P. O. Box 1119,
Shreveport, Louisiana.

MARYLAND

Baltimore Coin Club

George Requard, Sec./Treas., 5907 Harford Rd.,
Baltimore, Md.

Western Maryland Coin Club

Martin L. Johnson, Secretary, P. O. Box 145,
Cumberland, Maryland.

MASSACHUSETTS

New Bedford Coin Club

Miss Margaret C. Dunkap, Sec., 237 Court St.,
New Bedford, Mass.

MICHIGAN

Detroit Coin Club

Mr. Wilfred Rowe, Sec., 619 West Maplehurst,
Ferndale, Mich.

M I N N E S O T A

Northwest Coin Club

Paul E. Olson, Secretary, 616 So. Third St., Minneapolis, Minn.

Rochester Numismatic Society

S. W. Anderson, Secretary, 305½ So. Broadway, Rochester, Minn.

St. Paul Numismatic Association

Harold C. Dittman, Sec., 703 Pioneer Building, St. Paul, Minn.

M I S S O U R I

Missouri Numismatic Society

J. S. Stevenson, Secretary, 212 Edwin Ave., Kirkwood, Mo.

N E B R A S K A

Omaha Coin Club

Raymond Moulton, Secretary, 2647 Chicago St., Omaha, Nebraska.

N E W Y O R K

Brooklyn Coin Club

Charles P. Knoth, Sec., 115-120 --- 226th St., St. Albans, L. I., New York.

Bronx (N. Y.) Coin Club, The

David M. Bullowa, Secretary, 95 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Buffalo Numismatic Association

F. J. Herrick, Secretary, 2152 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Chase Bank Coin Society

Vernon L. Brown, Sec., Chase National Bank, New York, N. Y.

International Emergency Money Club

Emil Di Bella, Secretary, 1352 University Ave., Bronx, N. Y.

New York Numismatic Club

F. C. C. Boyd, Secretary, 59 West 12th St., New York, N. Y.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Mr. F. B. Newell, Secretary, 94 Monroe Parkway, Rochester, N. Y.

The Triple Cities' Coin Club

H. M. Christman, Secretary, 274 Conklin Avenue, Binghamton, N. Y.

O H I O

Cincinnati Numismatic Association

Chas. H. Thul, Secretary, 2631 Hemlock Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Youngstown Numismatic Club

A. E. Smith, Secretary, 57 Brooklyn Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio.

Dayton Coin Club

Luther H. Whitt, Secretary, 271 Lexington Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

Hamilton Y.M.C.A. Coin Club

G. E. King, Secretary, 606 Haven Avenue, Hamilton, Ohio.

Stark Coin Club

William Bruce, Secretary, 2816 Second St., N.W., Canton, Ohio.

Toledo Coin Club

S. L. Szyperski, Secretary, 222 Austin Street, Toledo, Ohio.

Trumbull Coin Stamp & Curio Club

C. L. Stillinger, Secretary, 534 North St., N.W., Warren, Ohio.

O K L A H O M A

Oklahoma City Coin Club, The

H. W. Zeigler, Sec., 3211 Military, Oklahoma City., Oklahoma.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

New Castle Coin Club

J. L. Gibson, Secretary, 414 Neshannock Ave., New Castle, Pa.

Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society

Mr. Earl Coatsworth, Secretary, 914 Broadway, East McKeesport, Pa.

T E N N E S S E E

Memphis Coin Club

W. C. Wilburn, Secretary, 695 Landis Street, Memphis, Tenn.

W A S H I N G T O N

Seattle Coin Club

C. C. Saeman, Secretary, 103 Crary Building, Seattle, Washington.

W I S C O N S I N

Madison Coin Club, The

Mr. Vincent Hack, Sec., 1811 University Ave., Madison, Wis.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

N. J. Hoffman, Sec., Thiensville, Wisconsin

Racine Numismatic Society

Mr. Arthur E. Jones, Sec.-Treas., 1203 South Main St., Racine, Wisconsin.

Ready January 10th

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December, 1939

THE COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL

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WAYTE RAYMOND, Editor

STUART MOSHER, Associate Editor

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New York, December, 1939

Whole No. 56

THE JOURNAL HAS ITS SIXTH BIRTHDAY

CHANGES FROM A HOUSE-ORGAN TO A TRADE MAGAZINE

With this issue we have changed the Journal from a house-organ to a general coin magazine. Its pages will be open to all dealers who wish to use it as a medium of advertising and every time we can give a coin dealer a boost we will do so. This state of affairs has been brought about by the development of our business in numismatic publications and other accessories. Our retail business in books, albums and coin pages will be entirely discontinued and no such items will be sold by us either over the counter or through the mails. Every order will be referred to the nearest coin dealer handling our products. Without the co-operation of other dealers the outlet for our accessories would be limited and we believe this policy will entirely remove any antipathy that might exist.

In the past we have devoted the Journal largely to advanced phases of coin collecting. Too often we have ignored the beginner who, as we all well know, will be the advanced collector of tomorrow. So henceforth we will attempt to stress the fundamental

facts of collecting and to disseminate numismatic knowledge to all kinds of collectors. Each contribution to the Journal will be carefully edited and while personalities will be permitted inflammatory remarks tending to create ill-feelings will be deleted.

CATALOGUE OF MEXICAN COINS

We are publishing, in this issue of the Journal, the first installment of our new list of Mexican coins as a guide to collectors. This is the first of a series of similar listings which will eventually take in all the silver and copper coins of Mexico, West Indies, Central and South America. The Mexican section will be complete in three issues of the Journal and will contain seven full page plates. As the dollars have been illustrated in our recent publication the Silver Dollars of North and South America—we have tried to show the smaller coins in most cases.



MEXICO

MEXICO CITY MINT. ^oM

Charles and Joanna, 1521-56				Philip V, 1700-1746			
		Good	Fine			Good	Fine
1	¹ / ₄ Real. Large K. crowned. R Large I. crowned. Very rare.			26	¹ / ₂ Real. Monogram	3.50	7.50
2	¹ / ₂ Real. Large K.I. R Pillars	5.00	15.00	27	1 Real. Crude type	2.00	3.50
3	1 Real. Arms. R Pillars	1.00	2.50	28	2 Reales. Similar	3.50	5.00
4	2 Reales. Similar	1.50	3.50	29	4 Reales. Similar	5.00	7.50
5	4 Reales. Similar	3.00	7.50	30	8 Reales. Similar	7.50	15.00
Copper				31	8 Reales 1709-24. Fine dies	10.00	25.00
6	4 Maravedi. Crowned initials on opposite sides	2.50	5.00	32	4 Reales 1733. Square cut	10.00	25.00
Philip II, 1556-98				33	8 Reales 1733, 34. Square cut	5.00	10.00
7	¹ / ₂ Real. Monogram	2.50	7.50	34	¹ / ₂ Real 1732-1747. Crowned arms. R Pillars	.50	1.00
8	1 Real. Arms. R Arms of Castile and Leon	1.50	3.50	35	1 Real. Similar	.50	1.00
9	2 Reales. Similar	2.00	5.00	36	2 Reales. Similar	.75	1.50
10	4 Reales. Similar	3.50	10.00	37	4 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
11	8 Reales. Similar	10.00	25.00	38	8 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
Philip III, 1598-1621				Louis I Jan. to Aug. 1724			
12	¹ / ₂ Real. Monogram	2.50	7.50	Half reales, 4 and 8 reales are known of this ruler but they are all very rare and seldom obtainable.			
13	1 Real. Arms. R Arms of Castile and Leon	2.50	5.00	Ferdinand VI, 1747-59			
14	2 Reales. Similar	3.00	7.50	39	¹ / ₂ Real 1747-1760. Arms. R Pillars	.50	1.00
15	4 Reales. Similar	3.50	7.50	40	1 Real. Similar	.50	1.00
16	8 Reales. 1607-21. Similar	5.00	15.00	41	2 Reales. Similar	.75	1.50
Philip IV, 1621-65				42	4 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
17	¹ / ₂ Real. Monogram	2.50	7.50	43	8 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
18	2 Reales. Type of Philip III	3.50	6.00	Charles III, 1760-1789			
19	4 Reales. Similar	5.00	10.00	44	¹ / ₂ Real 1760-1771. Arms R Pillars	.50	1.00
20	8 Reales 1621-62. Similar	5.00	10.00	45	1 Real. Similar	.50	1.00
Charles II, 1665-1700				46	2 Reales. Similar	.75	1.50
21	¹ / ₂ Real. Monogram	2.50	7.50	47	4 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
22	1 Real. Type of Philip IV	2.50	7.50	48	8 Reales. Similar	2.00	3.50
23	2 Reales. Similar	3.00	10.00	49	¹ / ₂ Real 1772-1789. Bust. R Arms	.25	.50
24	4 Reales. Similar	7.50	25.00	50	1 Real. Similar	.25	.50
25	8 Reales 1669-1699. Similar	25.00	75.00	50a	2 Reales. Similar	.50	.75
				51	4 Reales. Similar	.75	1.50
				52	8 Reales. Similar	1.50	2.50
				Charles IV, 1789-1808			
				53	¹ / ₂ Real 1789-90. Bust of Charles III	.50	1.00
				54	1 Real. Similar	1.00	2.00
				55	2 Reales. Similar	1.50	3.00
				56	4 Reales. Similar	2.50	5.00



		Good	Fine
57	8 Reales. Similar	2.50	5.00
58	1/4 Real 1796-1808. Castle. R Lion .....	.25	.50
59	1/2 Real. Bust of Charles IV. 1791-1808 .....	.25	.50
60	1 Real. Similar .....	.25	.50
61	2 Reales. Similar .....	.25	.50
62	4 Reales. Similar	1.00	1.50
63	8 Reales. Similar	1.50	2.50

Ferdinand VII, 1808-1821

		Fine	Very Fine
64	1/4 Real 1808-16. Castle. R Lion .....	.25	.50
65	1/2 Real 1808-14. Large bust .....	.35	.50
66	1 Real 1808-13. Similar .....	.35	.50
67	2 Reales 1808-11. Similar .....	.50	1.00
68	4 Reales 1808-12. Similar	1.00	2.00
69	8 Reales 1808-11. Similar	1.50	2.50
70	1/2 Real 1815-21. Draped bust .....	.25	.50
71	1 Real 1814-21. Similar .....	.25	.50
72	2 Reales 1812-21. Similar .....	.35	.60
73	4 Reales 1813-21. Similar .....	.75	1.25
74	8 Reales 1812-21. Similar	1.50	2.50

Copper

75	1/8 Real 1814, 15. Crown over double monogram .....	.50	1.00
76	1/4 Real 1814-16. Similar .....	.50	1.00
77	2/4 Real 1814-16, 21. Similar .....	.50	1.00
78	1/8 Real 1815, 16. Dur- ango. F.VII in mono- gram. R Value above branches	1.50	2.50

ROYALIST PROVISIONAL
MINTS
UNDER FERDINAND VII

CHIHUAHUA

		Good	Fine
79	8 Reales 1810-13. Cast	5.00	10.00
80	8 Reales 1814-1822. Struck	5.00	10.00
Regular type of Ferdinand VII with mint mark CA.			

DURANGO

		Good	Fine
81	1/2 Real 1813 .....	.25	.50
82	2 Reales 1815 .....	.35	.75
83	4 Reales 1816	1.00	1.50
84	8 Reales 1812-1822	2.50	7.50
Regular type of Ferdinand VII with mint mark D or Do.			

GUADALAXARA

85	2 Reales 1814, 1821 ..	.50	1.00
86	4 Reales 1814, 15	1.00	2.00
87	8 Reales 1812-15, 1818, 1820-23	2.50	7.50
Regular type of Ferdinand VII with mint mark Ga.			

GUANAXUATO

88	4 Reales 1821, 22	1.00	2.00
89	8 Reales 1813, 1821, 22 ..	2.50	7.50
Regular type of Ferdinand VII with mint mark Go.			

SOMBRERETE

90	1/2 Real 1811, 12	5.00	—
91	1 Real 1811, 12	3.50	—
92	4 Reales 1812	7.50	12.50
93	8 Reales 1810, 11. Small punches	5.00	10.00
94	8 Reales 1811, 12. Struck type	5.00	10.00

ZACATECAS

95	1/2 Real 1810, 11. Mountain	2.50	5.00
96	1 Real 1810, 11. Similar	2.00	3.50
97	2 Reales 1810, 11. Similar	1.50	2.50
98	8 Reales 1810, 11. Similar	5.00	8.50
99	8 Reales 1811, 12. Bust of Ferdinand VII. R Pillars and name of mint	5.00	10.00
100	2 Reales 1811, 12. Similar	3.00	5.00
101	1 Real 1811, 12. Similar	2.50	4.00
102	1/2 Real 1811, 12. Similar	2.00	3.50
103	1/2 Real 1813, 1819- 21. Regular type of Ferdinand VII with mint mark Z or Zs ..	.25	.50
104	1 Real 1815, 15, 1819- 22. Similar .....	.35	.75

(To be continued.)



NEW ISSUES OF COINS

BELGIUM

Leopold III. Silver 50 Francs 1939. Head of king r. R Shields of nine cities, crowned. BELGIQUE-BELGIE. Lettered edge.

BRITISH GUIANA

George VI. Silver 4 Pence 1939. Crowned head l. R Value in wreath. Milled edge.

CANADA

George VI. Silver Dollar 1939. Plain head l. R View of the Parliament Building at Ottawa. FIDE SVORVM REGNAT above. (His rule is based on the loyalty of his people) Struck to commemorate the recent visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

INDIA

George VI. Nickel 1 Anna 1939. Head l. R Value etc. Similar to previous type except for different portrait and legend. Scalloped edge.

IRELAND

Silver. Half-crown, Florin, and Shilling 1939. Similar to the previous issues except that the word SAOR-STAT EIREANN (Irish Free State) have been replaced with EIRE (Ireland) Bronze Farthing 1939. Similar legend.

ITALY

Victor Emanuel. Acmonital, 2 and 1 Lire, 50 and 20 Centesimi 1939. Similar to the issue of 1936 except for date and composition. This metal derives its name from three Italian words, "acciaio monetale Italiano," meaning stainless steel money of Italy.

SWITZERLAND

Silver. 5 Francs 1939. Marksman kneeling to l. R Legend in circle, date, value etc. Struck for the Lucerne Shooting Festival.

Silver. 5 Francs 1939. A farmer plowing, clasped hands below. R Value, date, etc. Struck for the Swiss National Exposition at Zurich.

YUGOSLAVIA

Peter II. Silver 50 Dinars 1938. Head of the king r. R Crowned double-headed eagle.

Silver 20 Dinars 1938. Head of the King to l. R Crowned double-headed eagle.

Aluminum-Bronze. 2 Dinars 1938. Crown surrounded by legend. R Value and date.

1 Dinar 1938. Similar.

50 Paras 1938. Simliar.

Far Eastern Coins in the Cabinet of the American Numismatic Society

By SYDNEY P. NOE

If the collection of the coins of the Mohammedan East belong to the American Numismatic Society is impressive, that devoted to the coinages of the Far East is no less so. The lack of an adequate working catalogue and the disagreements of the oriental scholars upon some of the basic datings have been a severe handicap to the study of these coins. On the other hand, such collections as that brought from Japan by Gen. Grant (now in the National Museum in Washington) and the well-known Glover Collection (also in the National Museum) do provide strong stimuli to American collectors. The primitive shapes and the unquestioned antiquity of some of them have attracted the attention of many. With the introduction of scientific methods in archeological excavations in China within the past decade, it may be possible to formulate a firm chronological basis for the early forms — forms whose claims as to date have sometimes seemed incredible.

The first considerable acquisition in this field was the cabinet of more than fourteen hundred oriental coins given by Mr. Charles Gregory in 1905. In 1913 an opportunity to secure the Ro Collections was offered. This consisted of about five hundred pieces, but as it admirably supplemented the Gregory gift, its purchase was recommended, and

contributions by Messrs. Field, Huntington, Newell, Ramsden and Saltus enabled the Society to obtain it. With the modern issues which had come to the Museum from time to time, the showing for the field was a respectable one.

Mention has already been made of the fact that in 1916 Messrs. Newell and Reilly brought their collections to the Society's building. At that time, Mr. Reilly's collection was outstanding, but far from being what it later became. One of his visits to Japan had resulted in the acquisition of the cabinet formed by Dr. Neil Gordon Munro, the distinguished author of a handbook on the coins of Japan for which every occidental collector interested in this coinage has reason for gratitude. In preparing this work, Dr. Munro had brought together the coins which he in many cases used for the illustration of this volume. In Japan, Mr. Reilly had made the acquaintance of Mr. Henry A. Ramsden, an English resident in Yokohama, and with his help, he began a study of the Chinese currency. Long residence in the orient with opportunities for travel gave Mr. Ramsden exceptional advantages in acquiring desirable examples. His letters to Mr. John Robinson of Salem and to Mr. Wood are mines of information regarding many of the issues. When Mr. Ramsden died in 1915

it was found that he had made provisions which made it possible for Mr. Reilly to obtain his entire collection of more than fifteen thousand pieces, and during the summer of 1917 it was received at the Society's museum. Further visits to the orient enabled Mr. Reilly to add to this magnificent assemblage — in 1938, a deed of gift signed by Mr. Reilly's daughter made his entire collection the property of our Society.

It is not in numbers alone that the Reilly collection is impressive — the experience gained by Mr. Ramsden over a period of years and his ability to profit by the advice of Chinese collectors was invaluable where it is frequently next to impossible to tell the imitation from the genuine. Fortunately his knowledge had found an outlet in several booklets which are and which will probably continue to be standards for years to come. The pieces which went into his collection were the choicest ones which passed through his hands. There are nearly ninety of the early spade coins in the collection, but it must be added that these comprise superlative specimens of most if not all of the known forms. The fact that there are more than a hundred 'bridge' pieces fails to record that the fine-lined decorations on these extraordinary examples of casting are all different, and that besides these there are variations in shape. With the 'knives' the variations run into the thousands, but even the prototypes are here in force. The importance which these may some day have for the archeologists is apparent. Bell and 'carapace' money, cicada-shaped pieces in jade, bone and metal and other forms of worked materials serve but to increase the more our respect for the early Chinese culture.

Mr. Ramsden devoted much attention to the cowries, and the varying forms which these took are fully illustrated.

If Mr. Ramsden seems to have concentrated on the early forms of money in China, Mr. Reilly took up the tale and added anything not already included. This is especially true of the coinage of the present century and it is often difficult to tell where the one left off and the other began. The modern coined silver and copper is well represented by issues from almost all of the provinces. Corea is strong, but so is almost every other section that issued money with Chinese inscriptions. Inaccessible Thibet as well as its neighboring province of Szechuan; desert-bound Turkestan with its oasis-cities of Kashgar and Yarkand; the occasional strikings of the petty chieftans on their borders — all offer testimony of monetary difficulties, which to judge from the evidence must have been considerable. The silver 'shoes' and the hacked masses of bullion show a return to conditions almost as primitive as those which produced the early bronze spades and knives. The range in size from masses weighing several pounds to very tiny bits of metal confirm the word of travellers that in some sections the balance is the final criterion, and the inscriptions which some pieces bear are indeed little more than statement of the purity of the metal.

To the south of China lies Annam, now under French rule. Previously the coinage had used inscriptions which were Chinese in form and script. The Annamese section of Mr. Reilly's cabinet was excellent, but in this case, the Society's holdings admirably rounded it out. A few years ago, by unusual good

fortune, we were able to acquire a presentation set given years ago to a French officer by the king of Annam; this included all the denominations in both gold and silver in superb condition. Also strongly represented are the strange oblong silver bars inscribed not only on both sides, but on their edges as well.

Mr. Reilly tried to obtain anything that would throw light on the Chinese monetary system. The collection includes a well-rounded selection of the gaudy Korean bridal breast-plates, the paper substitutes for money which are burned at funerals. Here are the money-changers' scales, the 'trees' in which the cash were made (in a multitude of varieties), the moulds in which the 'trees' were cast and the master dies for making the earthen molds as well. Siam is represented by a group of more than a thousand of the gaily-colored porcelain tokens, as well as by the silver issues. There are more than a thousand amulets with a wealth of variety to their pierced designs. Even wooden tallies in many forms are included. And one might continue.

The Munro collection gave an impressive start to the Reilly cabinet but the additions have been important. Obans and kobans in gold and silver and of many districts and shapes, illustrate the feudal history of the Japanese people. Two important pieces from the Newcomer Collection were bought at the sale to increase the effectiveness of the group. The tempo issues are especially strong, but hardly any of these interesting forms is absent. The study

of their coinage has been highly developed by the Japanese and the competition for rarities is great. The government has published several series of electrotypes reproductions, carefully labelled (in Japanese), and these are of course, valuable for our study, and are well-represented in Mr. Reilly's treasure. Our resources, now that the Munro collection with Mr. Reilly's additions has been joined to our own cabinet, would be enhanced in our eyes if we could have some Japanese collector point out how exceptional are some of this material.

It remains to be said that the gift includes Chinese and Japanese decorations, a fairly good collection of the paper money of both countries as well as a selection of objects (such as porcelains, sword-guards and swords, inro, lacquer, etc.) on which or in connection with which coins in any of their forms have been used for decoration or as a symbol of wealth. Furthermore, and of an importance that needs no exaggeration, it also included a library of considerable size, in which are to be found every publication on the oriental coinages which were to be located, (many in the native forms), and many other volumes treating the history of these countries, their literature, their art, their customs — in short anything which could be considered likely to increase one's knowledge of them. The rooms at our museum in which this collection is housed often arouse an expression of surprise on the part of those who see them for the first time. We can hardly be too grateful for such a benefaction.

U. S. MEDALS AND TOKENS

Under this heading it is proposed to show many of the unpublished or rarely seen early medalets and tokens of our country. They will not be listed in any special order but will be numbered as a matter of convenience. Collectors who are able to supply any interesting information are invited to do so. Full credit will be given.



1. Eagle facing holding U. S. shield and surrounded by 13 stars. R. RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT and FREE TRADE. Brass.

The reverse is the same as on the Newfoundland token, Breton 955 and the obverse unknown on any other token. This interesting piece first came up in the sale of the Morris Coll. by Ben G. Green, Chicago in 1912. It was purchased by W. W. C. Wilson of Montreal and sold with his collection in 1925.

2. FERRY-TOKEN. R Blank. Brass. This token is also from the Morris and Wilson Coll. The suggestion is made in Morris Catalogue that it preceded the Lauzon token, B. 560, but no proof advanced.

3. COTTAGE MEETING WORKERS. Silver, uniface, possibly a button top. Interesting on ac-

count of its similarity to the Harrison medals showing log cabin.

4. Obverse of 1859 quarter dollar. R J. E. KEYES in wreath. Tin. A most unusual token of good workmanship.

5. WOODS MINSTRELS. 561-563 Broadway, New York. "Intrinsic Value 25 cents." Silver.

The theatre opened on October 15, 1857 was known as "Woods new marble building," and was on the site of the old Lyceum of Natural History. The theatre was closed in 1859 and the building taken over by the Merchants and Manufacturer's Bank. The Original Wood's Minstrel Hall was at 446,448 Broadway and burned in 1854. In 1862 the Jewish Synagogue at 514 Broadway was remodeled for Woods.

THE NATIONAL COIN ALBUM

Number 3

FOR U. S. HALF DIMES 1794 - 1873
AND SILVER THREE CENTS 1851 - 1873



Contains four pages with openings to hold the complete series of half dimes from all the mints. This series has always been difficult to house and the new Album should make collecting a real pleasure. With one page for Silver 3 Cents.

PRICE COMPLETE \$4.00

Forwarding charges extra.
Shipping Weight 2 pounds.

THE NATIONAL COIN ALBUM

Number 4

FOR U. S. NICKEL COINS 1865 - 1912

Contains 5 pages, two of which hold the complete series of nickel 3 cent pieces 1865-1889, the other three pages hold all the Nickel 5 Cent pieces 1866-1912 including the two mint marks.

PRICE COMPLETE \$4.00

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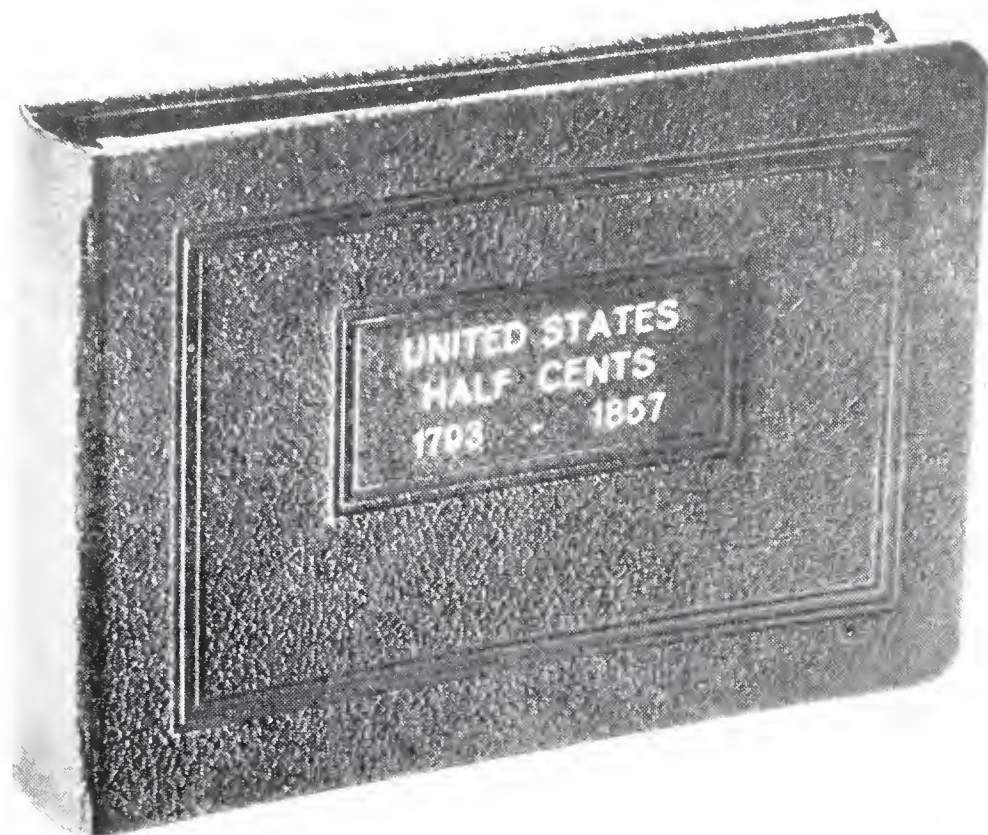


December, 1939

THE NATIONAL COIN ALBUM

Number 7

FOR U. S. HALF CENTS 1793 - 1857



Contains five pages with openings for 50 coins, omitting the rare proofs between 1831 and 1852.

PRICE COMPLETE \$4.00

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Shipping weight 2 pounds.

THE NATIONAL COIN ALBUM

Number 8

FOR ALL TYPES OF COMMEMORATIVE HALF DOLLARS

Contains five pages with lettered spaces for the forty-five distinct types of Commemorative half dollars disregarding date and mint mark varieties. Just the album for the young collector. Using the same binder as our complete album.

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Pages without binder

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Separate binder \$1.25 net



NOTES ON COLLECTING ANCIENT COINS

Gallons of printer's ink have been used in describing and illustrating ancient coins but little of it is ever used to tell the collector how best to collect them. Let us assume that you want to form such a collection. You have studied some ancient history, have a fair understanding of coin types and have con-



Athenian Tetradrachm.
A beautiful and well-struck coin.



Fine style but not nearly as desirable a coin.



An inexpensive coin, carelessly
struck and of decadent style.

tacted a number of coin dealers. One dealer advertises a silver tetradrachm of Athens, in extremely fine condition, for \$17.50. Another dealer offers one in the same condition for \$10 and still another offers one in fine condition for \$5 or in very good condition for \$2. While you are contemplating these offers you learn that an extremely fine tetradrachm of Athens recently sold for

\$75. You are naturally inclined to buy the one offered at \$10. On second consideration you may choose the one in fine condition for \$5.

But before your problem can be discussed in more detail we must find out why you collect ancient coins. If it is just that you want a coin of each ancient city, ruler or period then buy the cheapest possible. As a rule you get pretty much what you pay for. A genuine tetradrachm of Athens may be worth anywhere from \$1 to \$75 or even much more. The amount you wish to spend depends entirely upon your taste. If you want beautiful coins don't imagine you get them at bargain prices. Inartistic, poorly struck, mutilated and ugly coins are a drug on the market. When you decide you want none of such stuff you have immediately graduated into a class where competition is stiff. Aside from competing with dollars and cents you are competing with collectors who appreciate artistic and well-struck coins, who can spend a pleasant evening admiring just a few pieces and ponder the words of Keats who expressed beauty far better than has any writer to date, with, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever; Its loveliness increases; it will never pass into nothingness;" etc., (Endymion, Bk. I. L. 1). There you have the real reason why beautiful ancient coins bring good prices. There is a line of Shakespeare's in "As You Like It," which says, "Beauty provoketh thieves sooner than gold." That's the kind of competition you are up against and there is no way of getting around it. You are going to form a collection of beautiful coins or you are going to accumulate a bunch of junk. In either event you will spend the same amount of money, the only difference will be in the quality and quality of your collection.

We do not propose in this brief space to discuss in detail the difference be-



Tetradrachm of Philip II in the finest style.



Barbaric tetradrachm of Philip II.

tween a coin in fine style and one in poor style. The illustrations show what is meant. Like everything else coins are only beautiful or ugly by comparison. You must learn this comparison. You need not be an expert to appreciate

a well-struck, nicely-centered and evenly-toned coin of the finest period of art. How to buy such coins is a problem that will be discussed in some future issue of the JOURNAL.

COLLECTOR'S COMMENTS

A collector recently remarked that there were so many coin sales being held he could only hope to keep up with them by hiring an office staff and devoting his full time to filling out bid-sheets, paying his bills etc. He has a splendid idea there and one to which every dealer will subscribe. The coin business needs more collectors with that spirit.

* * *

Another collector we like is one who wrote to a cataloguer, "Don't think I'm a piker if some of my bids are low. I'm just getting started at this collecting game and have to sort of feel my way around." But at that he got most of the lots he bid on.

* * *

In the July Journal we ran an old gag about 1939 Jefferson Nickels being worth

\$96.95. Letters started coming in and we tremulously approached the problem of re-multiplying 1939 by .05. Being nervous we were away off in the first attempt, but after a little practice we made it come out to exactly \$96.95. After the first of the year, 1940 Jefferson Nickels will be worth \$97.00.

* * *

Writes a collector, "I quit collecting when commemorative coins got to be a racket. Now here I'm stuck with 1700 such half dollars. I don't expect to make a profit but would like to get my investment back. How can I best accomplish this?" Ans:—probably the best thing to do would be to buy some more at a lower price so as to reduce your average cost. Keep this up and eventually you will be able to introduce these historical coins into circulation without taking too great a loss.

AUCTION SALES

A number of coin dealers in the United States devote much of their time to conducting auction sales. Most sales are planned and prepared months in advance so do not send coins to be sold unless you have had correspondence with the cataloguer. When bidding at a sale, always send commercial references or send a deposit and ask the dealer to bill you for the coins before shipping. The dealer is actually an agent handling another person's property and cannot risk sending it to strangers. A club number is not a reference.

Dec. 5th. United States Coins. 2256 lots. Each regular series of United States coins is well represented. Many rarities. Most of the coins in this sale are from the collection of William B. Hale of Rochester, New York. Catalogued by B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas. This is Mr. Mehl's 94th sale, and his 39th Numismatic Year.

Dec. 9th. United States, Foreign and Ancient Coins. 910 lots. Paper money Tokens, Medals, etc. A nice lot of U.S. large cents, choice foreign dollar size coins and historical items. Catalogued by Walter F. Webb, 202 Westminster Road, Rochester, New York.

Dec. 9th. United States Coins. 999 lots including many proofs and scarce uncirculated pieces. About 50 lots of U. S. Patterns. Auction will be held 1 P.M. at the Philadelphia Art Galleries, 1924-26 Chestnut Street. Catalogued by Ira S. Reed, 37 South 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dec. 15th. United States, Foreign and Ancient Coins. 977 lots. Coins of all periods and metals. Many interesting gold pieces, historical medals and Roman Republican coins. A list of estimated values is included with the catalogue. Auction to be held in Conference Room No. 2 of the Hotel Pennsylvania, N. Y. Sale starts at 1 P.M. sharp. Catalogued by Stacks, 32 West 46th Street, New York City.

Dec. 16. United States and Pioneer Gold Coins. 186 lots. What this sale

lacks in quantity it makes up in quality. Many rarities such as Shultz 5 Dollars of 1851, U. S. half Eagle of 1828, 3 Dollars of 1876, et cetera. List of estimates and 7 full plates. Illustrations do not do justice to the coins. Sale to be held in Conference Room No. 2. Hotel Pennsylvania, N. Y. 2:15 sharp. Catalogued by Stacks, 32 West 46th Street, New York City.

Dec. 16th. United States and Foreign Coins. Tokens, Medals and Paper Money. 926 lots. Sale includes an attractive collection of Hard Times Tokens numbered according to Low. A number of Lincoln items are also offered. Auction to be held 1 P.M. in the Hotel Syracuse Bldg., 526 South Warren Street, Syracuse, N. Y. Catalogued by Barney Bluestone, of the same address. This is Mr. Bluestone's 47th Sale.

Dec. 18th. United States, Foreign and Ancient Coins. 1296 lots. Medals. Tokens, Paper Money, Foreign commemoratives, etc. Something to interest every collector in this sale. Catalogued by M. H. Bolender, 1126 Benson Blvd., Freeport, Illinois. This is Mr. Bolender's 128th sale.

Dec. 19th. Foreign Crowns and U. S. Coins. 467 lots. An unusual collection of crowns formed by Robert I. Webber of New York City. Illustrated catalogue. Mail Bid Sale catalogued by Wayte Raymond, Inc., 630 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

NOTES OF THE TRADE

Dealers are invited to send in news of general interest such as opinions on new publications, notices and reports on auction sales, unusual finds, unpublished coins, et cetera.

Mr. M. H. Bolender the well-known coin dealer of Orangeville, Illinois, has moved to a new home at 1126 Benson Blvd., Freeport, Illinois. This town is only twelve miles from Orangeville but will afford better facilities for handling coin orders. Mail directed to either address will reach him but the surest and fastest is to Freeport, via air-mail.

C. F. Clarke & Co., of LeRoy, New York, has introduced a small inexpensive steel coin cabinet on the market. It is especially designed to hold 2x2 coin envelopes. This is the sort of cabinet that collectors have long wanted. If you are interested, Mr. Clarke will send you an illustrated pamphlet. Or just send him \$2.88 and he will ship you the cabinet post-paid. He guarantees that you will like it and

his guarantee is backed by 34 years in the coin business.

A number of enterprising manufacturers are now making presidential medals or tokens on a large scale. Bronzed, and about the size of a half dollar they make an attractive display. They can be bought from a number of dealers including the Tatham Stamp and Coin Company of Springfield, Mass. A cigar stand in Rockefeller Center offers them for sale and the other night over on Staten Island a fellow won a set as a Bingo prize at a movie house.

Several coin cleaners or solvents are being offered. We examined one and found that it had ground glass in it. The other we did not try so they may have their merits. Does anyone know anything about them?

Domestic Coinage Executed, By Mints, During The Month of October, 1939.

Denomination	Philadelphia	San Francisco	Denver
SILVER			
Half dollars	\$1,074,251.50	.....	\$172,700.00
Quarter dollars	513,125.75	.....	700,000.00
Dimes	997,050.30	\$55,000.00	225,000.00
MINOR			
Five-cent nickels	843,000.00	20,000.00	73,700.00
One-cent bronze	733,970.00	147,300.00	.....

Domestic Coinage Executed, By Mints, During The Month of November, 1939.

Denomination	Philadelphia	San Francisco	Denver
SILVER			
Half dollars	\$503.00	.....	\$400,000.00
Quarter dollars	1,670,251.50	\$430,000.00	597,000.00
Dimes	931,100.60	574,000.00	550,000.00
MINOR			
Five-cent nickels	584,500.00	149,000.00	.....
One-cent bronze	774,315.00	.....	.....

COUNTERFEIT CHINESE SILVER DOLLARS

NOW FLOODING THE U. S. COIN MARKET

In the old days a Chinese would spend many hours scooping silver from a coin and refilling it with lead. If he was caught his head was chopped off and impaled on a post alongside the highway. Such punishment, while most unpleasant to contemplate, did not prevent such dishonest practices. We do not know anything about the present day laws of China, but we do know that faking is still a profitable and popular pastime there. The most recent instance, and one that arouses our ire, is that of a Chinese coin-dealer who is faking rare coins and selling them, through his agent, to dealers and collectors in the United States. This agent, apparently an American, proposes to supply any Chinese dollar ever issued for \$2.00. This is a flat rate, applying to rarities as well as very common pieces. He has been successful in selling a great many

of these fakes which are now being advertised as genuine originals by unsuspecting dealers.

This wily fellow pretends to know nothing about Chinese coins. He will not guarantee anything he sells and, when cornered, admits that they may not be originals. Among the coins he offers are a number of the rare issues of Chinese Turkestan and the Chinese Soviet. Dealers and collectors should be on the lookout for this rogue. He will probably approach you with a handful of genuine but common Chinese dollars. Then he will show you a series of photographs of rare pieces. He takes your order and ships the coins C.O.D. We don't think he is a very wise fellow for he leaves you his business card. But for all we know the name and address on the card might be entirely imaginary.

WEIGHT MONEY OF ANCIENT CHINA



The above cut is not upside down so don't bother writing to the harried editor

about it. Chinese characters are invariably open at the bottom and although most weight and pu coins stand on their feet, some, like this one, stand otherwise. According to Lacouperie the legend on this piece translates, "Two Kin of An-Yh. The old town of 'An in Shansi province is now known as An-Yh hien. Weight money was authorized in China about B.C. 680, but little is known of the early issues. The type illustrated was issued about B.C. 375. It is not particularly rare and most collectors of early Chinese coins have genuine specimens.

UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE COINS

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA



HALF DOLLAR, 1936. Obverse: Justice standing holding sword in right hand and scales in left; in background, at left, the old State Capitol building with date 1786 below; in background at right the new State Capitol building with date 1936 below; in upper left field LIBERTY; around upper border, SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE CAPITAL; around lower border: COLUMBIA SOUTH CAROLINA.

Reverse: Palmetto tree, the state emblem of South Carolina, with oak branches at base; above tree, E-PLURIBUS-UNUM; in right field, IN GOD WE TRUST; surrounding tree a semi circle of 13 stars; around outer border UNITED STATES OF AMERICA-HALF DOLLAR. Edge, reeded. Size, 19. Designed by A. Wolfe Davidson. Number coined, Philadelphia mint, 9,007; Denver mint, 8,009; San Francisco mint, 8,007. All issued.

Columbia, the capital city of South Carolina, celebrated its 150th anniversary of its founding during the week of March 22nd, 1936. At the time the site of Columbia was chosen as the state capital it was pretty much of a wilderness. It was settled in 1786 and laid out the same year. In 1790 the legislature first met there. In 1805 it was incorporated as a village, and in the year 1854 was chartered as a city.

During the Civil War General W. T. Sherman, on his march through the

Carolinas, entered Columbia, and on the following night a fire broke out which was not brought under control until most of the city was destroyed. The responsibility for the fire was blamed by the Confederates upon the Federals and by the Federals upon the Confederates.

This half dollar which was issued to help defray expenses incident to the celebration was designed by Mr. A. Wolfe Davidson, an art student of Clemson College. As with most coins in this series, this one symbolizes an important event in early American history. The palmetto tree on the reverse was chosen as the state emblem for a very good reason. During the Revolution the British fleet attempted to capture Charleston, but the natives repulsed the attack. Their long experience in fighting with the Spanish, French, Indians and pirates stood them in very good need. In repelling the British fleet the defenders used large barricades of palmetto trees, behind which they successfully operated their batteries. The British shells caused but little damage, burying themselves in the soft palmettos much to the disconcert of the British navy.

Today Columbia is a flourishing city. Picturesquely situated on the level top of a bluff overlooking the Congaree River, it is surrounded by miles of exceedingly fertile country, devoted chiefly to cotton growing. It is an important manufacturing center and has some of the largest cotton mills in the world. The buildings of the city are among the finest in the South and many of them house educational institutions that are famous throughout the country.

The piece of oak at the base of the tree symbolizes the defeat of the oaken ships of the British navy, a feat that few enemies ever accomplished.

Plate from the new Standard Paper Money Catalogue.



EARLY CITY NOTES

Top—New York, 1790 Center—Schenectady, 1815
Below—New York, 1814 Elizabeth, N. J., 1814

COLLECTOR'S EXCHANGE

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JANUARY 8th.

Those So-Called Coin Collecting "Trends"

It is often remarked, even by those who should know better, that "the trends of coin-collecting go in cycles." These "cycles" are supposed to depend entirely upon some unknown impulses that periodically cause collectors to center much of their attention upon one or more particular series of coins. Now such a circumstance does not seem plausible. The popularity or lack of popularity received by any series of coins should and can be explained.

Probably the best example in recent years is the curious career of our commemorative coins. Since the first one was issued in 1892 the interest in this series has steadily increased and today the interest is greater than it has been at anytime. This opinion will of course be challenged. Some will say that the bottom has dropped out of the commemorative market and that collectors are no longer interested in them. This is partly right but mostly wrong. The interest of collectors had practically nothing to do with the rising market of several years ago. A few dozen speculators started buying back and forth and some reputable dealers unwittingly

aided their plans. For a while there seemed to be no limit to the speculators enthusiasm. Then the bubble burst because the speculators couldn't trust each other. Prices have been cut all down the line and each day more collectors are attracted to these historical pieces.

Another popular fallacy is that large cents are not as popular as they once were. There are probably ten times as many collectors of large cents today as there ever were in the old days. The fact that the choice pieces do not bring as much as they did has no bearing on the matter. For every rich collector who will pay an almost unlimited price for a minor die variety, there are thousands of ordinary collectors who are willing, and do, pay good prices for decent dates and types. The same reasoning will explain the status of nearly any series. What a couple of rich collectors were willing to pay for a coin, ten, twenty or fifty years ago, is too often associated with the real value of a coin. The price of iced-drinks in Hades has had no effect on our liquid refreshment market whatsoever.

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1887 over 86 Three Cent Ni. Pf.	4.75
1877 Five Cent Nickel Proof.....	18.00
1884 Five Cent Nickel Proof.....	4.00
1885 Five Cent Nickel Proof.....	7.50
1886 Five Cent Nickel Proof.....	4.00
1927-D Brilliant Unc. Quarters...	5.00
500 Uncirculated Lincoln cents not over 50 of a kind.....	9.50

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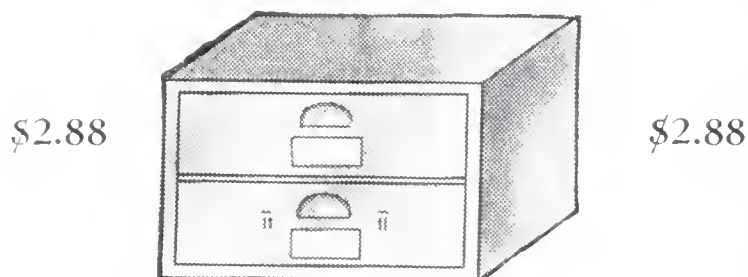
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